

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Title VI of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides that “no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity received Federal financial assistance.”

WHEREAS, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 extended protection against discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin to include housing and related facilities provided with Federal assistance, and lending practices “with respect to residential property when such practices are connected with loans insured or guaranteed by the Federal government.”

WHEREAS, the denial of equal housing opportunity is one of the most serious challenges a community can face. It is a challenge that must be met and surmounted lest it erode the vital social structure that holds a community together and gives it shape and dimension. The need for shelter is an essential human need. The right to freely choose a place to live is a basic human right and discrimination in housing is not only against the law, but contrary to our sense of what our country should mean to us and to others.

WHEREAS, in support of equal housing opportunity, the City of Burlingame, Kansas, has established a Fair Housing contact (committee) whose functions include receiving complaints regarding alleged violations of jurisdictional fair housing policies, and attempting to resolve legitimate grievances through conference and conciliation at the local level if possible.

WHEREAS, there are voluntary programs in support of fair housing that we as concerned citizens can encourage at every level in our community and in our job. There are personal and professional attitudes that we can and must change. These efforts are to make fair housing choice a basic right for ourselves and our neighbors.

Now, therefore, I, William R. Kraus, Mayor of the City of Burlingame, Kansas, do hereby designate the month of April, 2006, as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in the City of Burlingame, Kansas, and urge all citizens to join in this observance by resolving to fight discrimination in our personal lives, and by making ourselves aware of the Fair Housing Act and the ways in which it applies to our community.

SIGNED AND SEALED this 20th day of March, 2006.

William R. Kraus, Mayor

Christina Lewis, City Clerk

(SEAL)